

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

Claim 1 (Currently amended): A method for preparing a thin fiber-structured polymer web, comprising the steps of:

dissolving a polymer in a volatile solvent used as a polymer solvent to prepare a polymer solution;

spinning the polymer solution by electrospinning with a maximal voltage of 16kV;

compulsorily discharging air containing a large amount of the said solvent volatilized as said polymer solidifies by electrospinning, externally while injecting air into a working space during the electrospinning; and

forming a thin fiber-structured polymer web cumulated on a collector, wherein said thin fiber-structured polymer web has a thickness in the range of from 1 to 100 microns.

Claim 2 (Original): The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the volatile solvent is at least one having a high volatility selected from the group consisting of acetone, chloroform, ethanol, isopropanol, methanol, toluene, tetrahydrofuran, water, benzene, benzyl alcohol, 1,4-dioxane, propanol, carbon tetrachloride, cyclohexane, cyclohexanone, methylene chloride, phenol, pyridine, trichloroethane and acetic acid.

Claim 3 (Original): The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the volatile solvent is a mixed solvent comprising at least one relatively high-volatility solvent and at least one relatively low-volatility solvent, the relatively high-volatility solvent being selected from the group consisting of acetone, chloroform, ethanol, isopropanol, methanol, toluene, tetrahydrofuran, water, benzene, benzyl alcohol, 1,4-dioxane, propanol, carbon tetrachloride, cyclohexane, cyclohexanone, methylene chloride, phenol, pyridine, trichloroethane and acetic acid, the relatively low-volatile solvent being selected from the group consisting of N,N-dimethyl formamide (DMF), dimethyl sulfoxide (DMSO), N,N-dimethylacetamide (DMAc), 1-methyl-2-pyrrolidone(NMP), ethylene carbonate (EC), propylene carbonate (PC), dimethyl carbonate (DMC), acetonitrile (AN), N-methylmorpholine-N-oxide, butylene carbonate (BC), 1,4-butyrolactone (BL), diethyl carbonate (DEC), diethylether (DEE), 1,2-dimethoxyethane (DME), 1,3-dimethyl-2-imidazolidinone (DMI), 1,3-dioxolane(DOL), ethyl methyl carbonate (EMC), methyl formate (MF), 3-methyloxazolidin-2-on (MO), methyl propionate (MP), 2-methyletetrahydrofurane (MeTHF) and sulpholane (SL).

Claim 4 (Original): The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the a relative humidity in a working space for the electrospinning is 0 to 40 %.

Claim 5 (Original): The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the temperature of the polymer solution during the electrospinning is in the range from 40 °C to the boiling point of the solvent.

Claim 6 (Original): The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the content of the polymer used in the preparation of the polymer solution is 0.1 to 40 wt.% based on the content of the solvent.

Claim 7 (Currently amended): The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the polymer is selected from the group consisting of poly(vinylidene fluoride (PVDF), poly(vinylidene fluoride-co-hexafluoropropylene), polyacrylonitrile, poly(acrylonitrile-co-methacrylate), polymethylmethacrylate, polyvinylchloride, poly(vinylidenechloride-co-acrylate), polyethylene, polypropylene, nylon12, nylon-4,6, ~~aramid~~ aramide, polybenzimidazole, polyvinylalcohol, cellulose, cellulose acetate, cellulose acetate butylate, polyvinyl pyrrolidone-vinyl acetates, poly(bis-(2-(2-methoxyethoxyethoxy)phosphazene) (MEEP), poly(propyleneoxide), poly(ethylene imide) (PEI), poly(ethylene succinate), polyaniline, poly(ethylene sulphide sulfide), poly(oxymethylene-oligo-oxyethylene), SBS copolymer, poly(hydroxy butyrate), poly(vinyl acetate), poly(ethylene terephthalate), poly(ethylene oxide), collagen, poly(lactic acid), poly(glycolic acid), poly(D,L-lactic-co-glycolic acid), polyarylates, poly(propylene fumalates), poly(caprolactone), biopolymer, coal-tar pitch, petroleum pitch, or copolymer of them, or blend of more than two of them.

Claim 8 (Original): The method as claimed in claim 7, wherein the polymer is mixed with an emulsion, or an organic or inorganic powder.

Claim 9 (Original): The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the collector is an anode comprising at least one selected from the group consisting of LiCoO₂, LiMn₂O₂, LiMn₂O₄, LiNiO₂, LiCrO₂, LiVO₂, LiFeO₂, LiTiO₂, LiScO₂, LiYO₂, LiNiVO₄ LiNiCoO₂, V₂O₅ and V₆O₁₃; or a cathode comprising at least one selected from the group consisting of a carbon material including graphite, cokes or hard carbon, tin oxide, lithium compound of these materials, metal lithium and metal lithium alloy.

Claim 10 (Original): The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the collector has its upper part provided with a filtering medium.

Claim 11 (Cancelled).

Claim 12 (Original): A thin fiber-structured polymer web obtained by the method according to claim 1.

Claim 13 (Original): A filter obtained by laminating the thin fiber-structured polymer web manufactured by the method according to claim 1.